

10/688,624

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B-03-0835

**REMARKS**

At the outset, a new Power of Attorney is submitted herewith. Please associate this application with Customer No. 44702.

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 16, 25, 26, 33, 35, and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 7, 14 and 31 by incorporating the subject matter of dependent Claims 3, 10, 16 and 33 therein, respectively. Claims 3, 10, 16 and 33 have thus been canceled. Dependent Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 25, 26, 35 and 36 have been amended to independent form, including all limitations of their respective base claims. Claims 37-41 have been canceled without prejudice.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing Remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-15, 17-32 and 34-36 are allowable and in a proper condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney at (212) 681-0600 if any unresolved matters remain.

Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account 50-3195.

Dated: February 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,  
OSTRAGER CHONG FLAHERTY  
& BROITMAN P.C.  
Customer No. 44702

By: 

Joshua S. Broitman  
Reg. No. 38,006  
250 Park Avenue, Suite 825  
New York, New York 10177-0899  
(212) 681-0600  
Attorneys for Applicant